



OCTOBER 2010 EDITION

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Salina Human Relations

“... with liberty and justice for all.”

THE MISSION OF THE SALINA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION IS TO ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION AND TO ESTABLISH EQUALITY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL PERSONS WITHIN THE CITY OF SALINA THROUGH CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT, ADVOCACY AND EDUCATION.

Come together

Teen Summit seeks to build momentum from its premiere in 2009

A 2008 shooting involving two Salina teens inspired Sandra Beverly of the Salina Human Relations Department to do something about youth violence.

The result was the Teen Summit, an event which drew 70 middle- and high-schoolers in August 2009 to The City teen center, 129 N. Seventh.

The 2010 event will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23, again at The City.

“My vision for the 2010 Teen Summit is that the youth of Salina will begin to discover their place in this community, country and world,” Beverly said. “Last year, we had over 70 students in attendance and almost as many adults that participated. This year, we expect the number to double.”

This year’s event will have a similar format, with presentations and discussion on topics such as multi-cultural awareness, peer pressure, education, the law, spirituality and physical and mental well-being.



STUDENTS had various opportunities to discuss issues affecting teens at the 2009 Teen Summit. This year’s event, which will be at The City, 129 N. Seventh, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23, again will feature a variety of discussion as well as free food and activities.

A reminder of the need for such events arose in July, when 17-year-old Salinan Derek Rico was shot and killed by another youth in Salina’s Sunset Park.

Salina law enforcement officials have since attributed the 2008 shooting and the 2010 shooting to gang violence, and

the Salina Police Department announced in September that it is forming a special unit to address gang issues.

The Teen Summit is sponsored by the Salina chapter of the NAACP and the Salina Human Relations Department.

The point of the event is to

2010 Teen Summit

**WHEN: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 23**

**WHERE: The City
129. N. Seventh**

**WHAT: Presentations,
Discussion, Food,
Activities, Fellowship**

develop dialogue among teens about important issues and to give them an opportunity to interact with adults who care about them, Beverly said.

“It is important that youth and adult come together in an environment that is safe, nonjudgmental and caring in an attempt to learn how making our community a better place is a responsibility we all share,” she said. “Will we reach everyone? No, but we have to start somewhere.”

Salina Human Relations provides diversity training for all city staff

Training includes Jane Elliott's 'Blue Eyes' film

Salina Human Relations staff provided diversity training to 280 City of Salina employees on Sept. 28 at the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce Development Center.

It was the first time the city had ever had a mandatory training session on diversity. The training was done at the request of the Human Resources Department.

The two-hour training sessions started with discussion about labels and how we often make assumptions about others based on appearance.

The goal of the training was to help improve customer service.

One of the things that was discussed was that as individuals we naturally have a set of values and some things are acceptable to us and some are



GINA McDonald, director of the Salina Human Relations Department, leads discussion about labels during diversity training SHR put on for all city staff on Sept. 28 at the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce Development Center.

not. It was pointed out that that's OK, but when it comes to the workplace, it's important that we not let our personal values negatively affect our attitude toward others, especially customers.

Another part of the training session was a 30-minute film showing Jane Elliott's "Blue-Eyes/Brown-Eyes" exercise.

Elliott goes all over the country doing the exercise, which illustrates how people tend to be treated unjustly based on physical characteristics.

Nearly a third of the 167 people who submitted evaluations gave the movie a "10" rating on a scale of 1-10, and 69 percent rated it an "8" or higher.

New initiative seeks to involve youth in local government

The Salina Human Relations Department is seeking to increase youth involvement in local government by initiating a new program called Youth on Board.

The program creates opportunities for youth 14 and older to serve on one of the 21 boards and commissions which help guide Salina's city government.

Some of them include the Accessibility Advisory Board, the Animal Control Advisory and Appeals Board, the Arts and Humanities Commission, the Community Art and Design Advisory Committee, the Convention and Tourism Advisory Committee, Human Relations Commission and the Parks and

Recreation Advisory Board.

The intent of Youth on Board is to help local government to be more effective and representative and to help students develop into adults who are invested in the Salina community.

The Human Relations Department has sent information about the program to administrators in private and public schools throughout Salina.

More information is available at our website, www.human.salina.org, and Human Relations Department staff are available to make presentations to students and/or school personnel by calling 309-5745 or e-mailing us at darrin.stineman@salina.org.

Calendar of Community Events

Oct. 2: Alcohol & Addiction Recovery Month community-wide barbecue, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Oakdale Park-Eric Stein Stage, free food, bounce-a-roos, recovery march, carnival games, live music.

Oct. 2: North End Voter Registration Rally, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; food, drinks, music, fun; 304 W. Grand Ave.

Oct. 2-3: Salina Public Library book sale, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Oct. 2, 1-3:30 p.m. on Oct. 3, Prescott Room.

Oct. 6: Two public flu-shot clinics, drive-through clinic from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., enter east driveway between 4-H Building & Agricultural Hall from the south, \$22, adults only; inside 4-H Building, 2-6 p.m., children & adults welcome, \$22.

Oct. 7: League of Women Voters Judicial Diversity Forum: Judges Jennifer Jones, Joe Johnson and Maritza Segarra, KWU Peters Science Hall, 7 p.m.

Oct. 9: "Salud Sin Fronteras" health fair, information and free services, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Friendship Center, 746 Commerce.

Oct. 12: Salina Human Relations Commission monthly meeting, 5:30 p.m., Room 105, City-County Building, public is invited.

Oct. 12: League of Women Voters "Lunch & Learn" event with Marie Johnson, who will make a presentation on the North End Voter Registration Rally, Salina Public Library's Prescott Room, 12:15-1:15 p.m., bring your own lunch.

Oct. 17: NAACP-Salina monthly meeting, 3 p.m., Salina Art Center, 242 S. Santa Fe, public is invited.

Oct. 21: 20th Annual Employment Expo, 2-6 p.m., Central Mall.

Oct. 21: League of Women Voters candidate forum, 6-9 p.m. Salina Area Chamber of Commerce Development Center, 120 W. Ash.

Oct. 23: Make a Difference Day, volunteer opportunities including painting, pulling weeds, picking up trash, handyperson work, etc., call 823-3128 or register online at www.nckvc.org.

Oct. 23: Teen Summit, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., The City, 129 N. Seventh, presentations and discussion on multi-cultural awareness, peer pressure, education, the law, spirituality and physical/mental well-being; will include free food and games.

Oct. 26: Fitness and Whole Health Assessments in cooperation with KWU nursing students and the Commission on Aging, University United Methodist Church, Clafflin & Sante Fe, 9:30 a.m. or 12:30, please wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes.

Nov. 16: DVACK Festival of Trees fundraiser, Ramada Inn, 1616 W. Crawford, preview and social hour starts at 6:30 p.m., buffet dinner at 7 and benefit auction at 8, \$40 per person, call 827-5862 or go to www.dvack.org for more information.

Visit our online calendar at www.human.salina.org